

THE DIMENSIONS OF SEX WORK AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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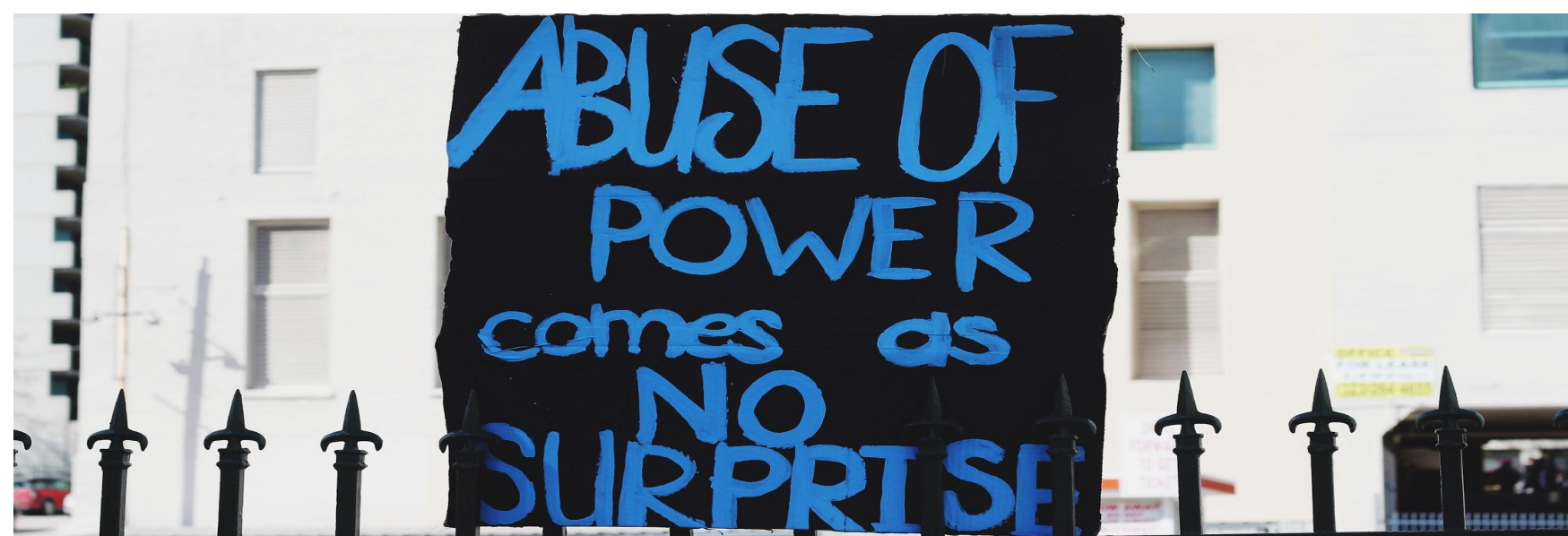
1. THESIS

This research explores how Canadian legislation, societal norms and the criminalization of sex work are all factors resulting in the unequal treatment and major safety risks among sex workers in Canada.

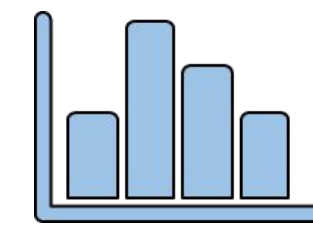


2. ABSTRACT

Sex workers have become more vulnerable than before within Canadian society. Bill C-36 has prevented them from practicing in a safe environment and without the prejudice of powerful institutions such as the police and the law. As a result, the law does not properly regulate their protection and society mistakes sex work and human trafficking to be interchangeable. In the realm of sex work, some individuals are not endangered while some are forced into this trade. This project discusses how Canadian legislation poorly interprets sex work by criminalizing it and risking the safety of individuals by further secluding them in the legal and societal domain.



Sophia, S. (n.d.).

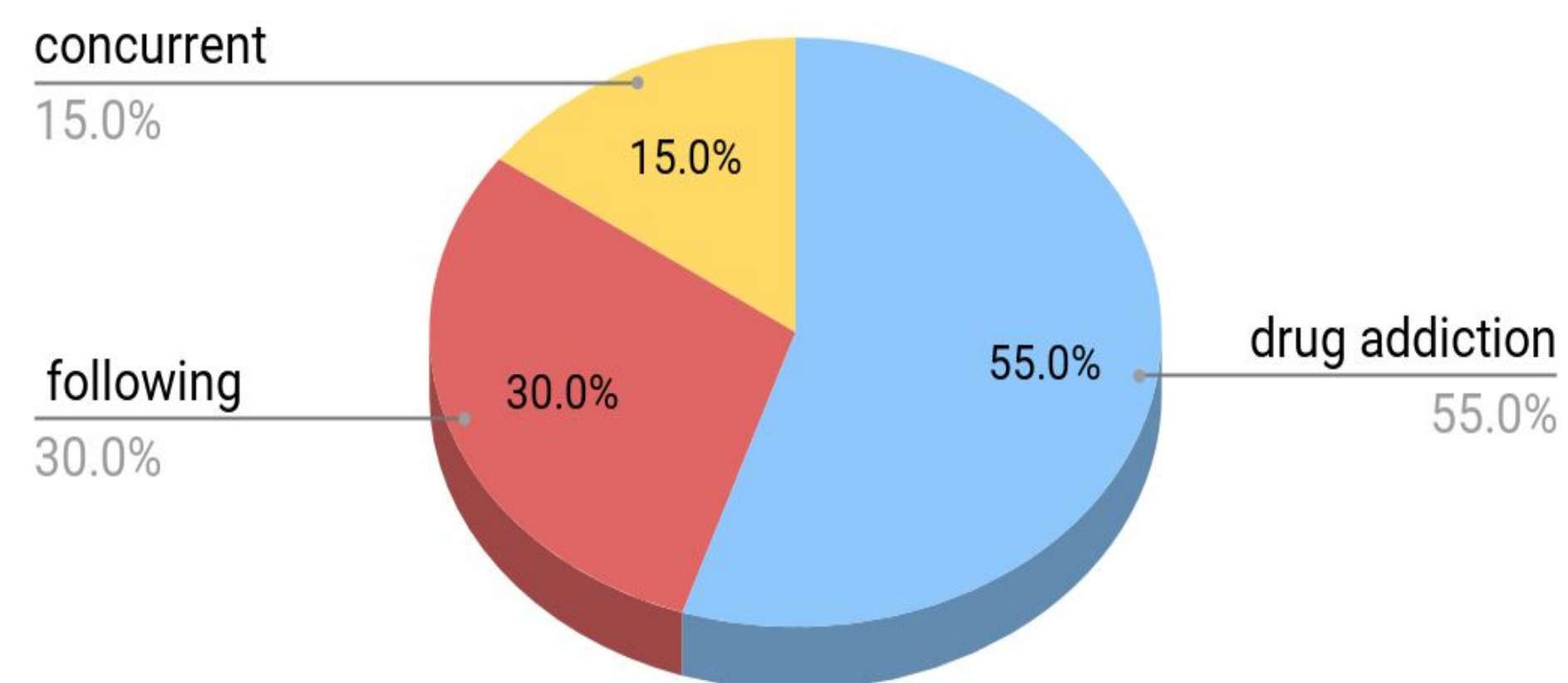


3. METHODOLOGY

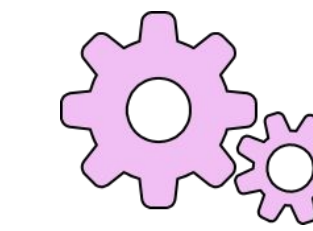
- The methods used to view the discrimination and risks experienced by sex workers were a court case, a bill, a parliamentary debate, a newspaper and two scholarly articles.
- The wide variety of sources focused on the perspective of sex workers, human trafficking victims and Canadian legislation.

Drug Abuse and Prostitution

200 juvenile and adult sex workers

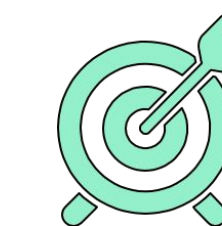


- This study demonstrates how the relationship between drug abuse and sex work has not been delineated.
- Other factors such as homelessness, sexual activity, intrafamilial and extrafamilial sexual abuse also play a role in the initiation of prostitution.



4. FINDINGS

- The criminalization of sex work reflects anti-discriminatory policies
- R v. Lopez (2018) demonstrates how the protection of sex workers is limited due to the involvement of pimps
- Bill C-452; to combat procuring and trafficking sex work has not been approved by the government
- Bill C-36 prohibits purchasing sexual services, receiving material benefits and the advertisement of sexual services
- Youth or adult procured into sex work are victims, not sex workers
- Bill C-36 led to increase of harassment and arrests of sex workers.



5. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, there needs to be more research done on the perspective of sex workers and legislations or bills such as Bill C-452 to understand the depth of the issue surrounding sex work. Legislative change is needed in order to prevent the high risk situations and discrimination faced by sex workers.